

HOPE: “you can feel it, like you’re wrapped up in it.”

These are the very encouraging words of a recent visitor to Hope House. Whilst there are many practical things that we are able to do with so many volunteers from local churches and elsewhere, it is the tangible atmosphere of welcome & love that makes the most difference and provides the foundation for helping people make real progress. It is also the reason why so many of the volunteers and the staff love being part of this family. It has become very special and we hope we can share this with all the work we support across the city.

THANK YOU!!

As last Christmas approached, food donations poured in from everywhere imaginable: Families, individuals, businesses, pubs, churches and more. This together with collection days at Tesco resulted in over 7 tons of food donations. We are very grateful for this support for all our foodbanks. The need has continued to increase, with 10,500 parcels distributed in the last year. That’s equivalent to over 100,000 meals!!! This is only possible because of your great generosity.



Can you take part in the 40 for 40 challenge for Lent?

Hope House and increasingly the foodbanks we support across Nottingham do so much more than hand out food. Providing befriending, mentoring, employability training and pastoral support all help people to make real progress. Your contribution could help us to make a life changing difference to local families and individuals.

<https://my.give.net/40For40Lent2018HopeNottm>

REFUGEE SUPPORT IN CARLTON & ARNOLD

Following several months of work with Nottingham City Council, Gedling Borough Council and churches in the Gedling area we are very pleased to see two new initiatives start in the area.

Arnold Language Café - Thursdays 1.30-2.30 at the Beacon Hub

Carlton International Friendship Café - Mondays 9.00-11.00 at Main St Methodist Church

Both of these provide a welcome and friendly environment for anyone whose first language is not English, to build friendships across cultures and to encourage English language conversation. In Carlton we are particularly encouraging people from local Polish and Italian communities along with refugees and asylum seekers; aiming for a very multi-cultural friendship café. Alongside this work Hope Nottingham is now providing enabling support for the development of Nottingham City of Sanctuary, seeking ways of welcoming and supporting refugees, and asylum seekers and others in neighbourhoods all around Nottingham.



A 3 week course starting 26th February, 7.30pm, Hope House

This is a free, friendly and enjoyable course for anyone who would like to learn how to manage their money and budget better. The course is run by trained CAP Money Coaches, Claire & Mark from Beeston Methodist Church. To book a place or for more information contact:-

cap@beestonmethodist.church

07759291231

CORNERSTONE MONEY ADVICE

now available at Hope House 10-12 every Wednesday.

We are delighted to be working in partnership with CMA, provide by Cornerstone Church, offering debt advice and guidance as part of Hope Café drop-in. A free service open to all.



Please Join us in Prayer

Before Hope Café opens each morning we welcome anyone to join us in prayer for 10-15 mins. This year we are following a daily prayer blog at www.nigelathope.wordpress.com. So wherever you are you could join us in prayer. We are also encouraging the other project we support around Nottingham to join us in this way.

We are also very pleased to have set aside a 24/7 prayer room at Hope House. We are working through the practicalities of making this available at night, but in the meantime the room is available all day Mon-Thurs.

New Business Development Manager

Thanks to the Lloyds Foundation Enable Fund, we are delighted to welcome Chris Dilks onto the staff team at Hope. Chris's role includes developing a strategic business plan, to enable Hope to continue to develop holistic community support across Nottingham. His work will particularly involve developing employability support and job clubs at several project locations and, where possible, seek funding and commissioning to sustain this and Hope's wider work.

Celebrating the life of Martin Lloyd-Penny

Martin first became a very active supporter of Netherfield Foodbank after seeing the film "I, Daniel Blake." He got his whole street and others in Burton Joyce collecting regularly for the foodbank. He also wrote a song, "The Ballad of I, Daniel Blake" and a musical with his friend David Machell (*pictured below with our van driver Karen*) and staged food and fundraising concerts in Burton Joyce and Beeston. Sadly Martin died in January, but we were honoured to be present at the service celebrating his life. Even in this occasion, guests were encouraged to bring donations to the foodbank, which they did in abundance.

Martin was a very generous man who inspired others to follow his example.



Job Club Volunteer Opportunity

Hope House Job Club has had considerable success since it started a year ago, helping long term unemployed people get into work. If you can help people get do online job searches and provide encouragement, you would be very welcome to get involved. Contact chris.dilks@hopenottingham.or.uk or sue.hillier@hopenottingham.org.uk to find out more.